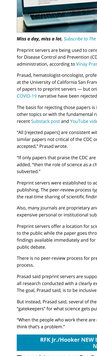
Register Now! CHD's 2nd Annual Conference • Nov. 3-5

'Startling': Preprint Servers Censored Research That Contradicted Government's COVID Narrative

Vinay Prasad, M.D., MPH, found that 34% of his lab's submissions to preprint servers were rejected — even though *four* were articles eventually were published in journals and extensively discussed.

By **Brenda Baletti, Ph.D.**



Miss a day, miss a lot. *Subscribe to The Defender's Top News of the Day.* **It's free.**

Preprint servers are being used to censor scholarly papers critical of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and policy errors made by the Biden administration, according to Vinay Prasad, M.D., MPH.

Prasad, hematologist-oncologist, professor and director of a medical policy lab at the University of California San Francisco said his lab has submitted hundreds of papers to preprint servers — but only those that deviate from the official COVID-19 narrative have been rejected.

Preprint servers are established to address inefficiencies in academic publishing. The peer-review process typically takes months or more, delaying the real-time sharing of scientific findings with the public.

Also, many journals are proprietary and can only be accessed through expensive personal or institutional subscriptions.

Preprint servers offer a location for scientific reports and papers to be available to the public while the paper goes through peer review — making scientific findings available immediately and for free and opening them up to broader public debate.

There is no peer-review process for preprints, although there is a vetting process.

Prasad said preprint servers are supposed to be neutral and supposed to post all research conducted with a clearly explained and reproducible methodology. The goal, Prasad said, is to be inclusive and make scientific debate possible.

But Prasad said, several of the preprint servers have become "gatekeepers" for what science gets published.

"When the people who work there are rabid, politicized and biased," he said, "I think that's a problem."

RFK Jr./Hooker NEW book: Vax-Unvax. Order Now!

The preprint servers are really a disgrace'

To test the bias of preprint servers, Prasad's lab did a comprehensive analysis of its own preprints. Lab staff analyzed outcomes for all preprints they submitted to SSRN, medRxiv (pronounced "med archive") and Zenodo servers — which he noted is a "reproducible systematic methodology."

They found "a startling pattern of censorship and inconsistent standards from preprint servers. Preprint servers appear to be playing politics," Prasad wrote.

Specifically, MedRxiv and SSRN have declined to post articles critical of the CDC, mask and vaccine mandates and the Biden administration's healthcare policies.

"Preprint servers are not supposed to be journals — they are not supposed to reject articles merely because the people running them disagree with the arguments within."

They don't want to post a preprint that makes their own preprint server look bad," he said, adding, "That's pathetic. You have to post it because it's factually true."

Examples of censored articles demonstrate the bias behind the servers' decisions.

One paper re-analyzed a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine that found cloth masks reduced the rates of COVID-19 transmission in some Massachusetts schools.

Prasad's lab found that by simply lengthening the timeframe of the data analyzed in the observational analysis, the paper's conclusion was invalidated. The data showed instead that masks did not slow the spread.

The servers didn't post their paper, he said, citing "the need to be cautious about medical contrarianism."

Prasad said the article was censored, "because it calls into question something that, frankly speaking, is pretty stupid, which is masking children with cloth masks — a stupid intervention denied by someone who cannot read randomized controlled trials and then pushed with the full force of the federal government — with no credible evidence and no randomized data."

Order Now 'The Wuhan Cover-up' by RFK Jr.!

The servers censored Prasad's lab's comprehensive analysis of preprint bias using the same justification — "the need to be cautious about medical contrarian."

He said, "No one could possibly believe that this paper would require the need to be cautious — it merely documents your [preprint server's] prior sins-up."

Another censored preprint reported on the lab's systematic review and meta-analysis of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccination in 5 to 11-year-olds. The paper critiqued the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) approval of the drug for that age group.

The SSRN also removed that preprint citing, again, "the need to be cautious about medical contrarian."

SSRN used the same "boilerplate language" to remove the lab's review of methodologies and conclusions in Cochrane reports. Those findings supported the controversial conclusion of the Cochrane review that community masking had no impact on slowing the spread of COVID-19.

Another article, rejected by medRxiv, which documented statistical and numerical errors made by the CDC during the pandemic, was already accepted by a journal and is one of the 10 most downloaded articles of all time on that journal.

"Here's the point," Prasad said, "You don't have to agree with me, but this preprint server is not even letting the audience of scientists decide. Who gave them this authority? They don't get to censor me merely for the article. That's not their purview."

Overall the team found that 38% of their submissions to preprint servers were rejected or removed. Yet, these rejected articles eventually were published and extensively discussed.

"The median number of downloads for a rejected/removed article that was later accepted by a different server was 4,142 vs. 300 for articles submitted and accepted without rejection or removal," he said.

Their analysis found that overall, Zenodo does not censor articles, but SSRN and medRxiv do.

So, he said, these organizations, established to make science transparent and uncensored have become gatekeepers "for their friends, for the views that they like."

He also said their policies were inconsistent, with no clear scientific principles guiding rejection.

"They're rejecting [80%] of our articles because these are critical of establishment COVID-19 policies," he said, adding:

> "The COVID-19 pandemic is in fact a great example of ... how people in power suppress minority views even when those views are meritorious — like toddlers shouldn't mask, school should be open, you don't need to mandate boosters, you shouldn't mandate boosters for young men, nobody who had COVID should have to get the vaccine — those are sensible medical policies that are correct.
>
> "History will vindicate them. They were all censored at one time or the other. ... The preprint servers are really a disgrace."

Watch here:

Subscribe to The Defender – It's Free!

First Name Last Name Email SIGN UP

SUGGEST A CORRECTION

Brenda Baletti, Ph.D.
Brenda Baletti Ph.D. is a reporter for The Defender. She wrote and taught about capitalism and politics for 10 years in the writing program at Duke University. She holds a Ph.D. in human geography from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master's from the University of Texas at Austin.

Sign up for free news and updates from Children's Health Defense. CHD focuses on legal strategies to defend the health of our children and obtain justice for those injured. We can't do it without your support.

Republishing Guidelines

Children's Health Defense Comment Policy
We welcome relevant and respectful comments. Off-topic comments may be removed.
Please read our Comment Policy before commenting.
Got It

14 Comments

Login

Join the discussion...

LOG IN WITH OR SIGN UP WITH DISQUS

Name

Share

Best Newest Oldest

hotelplease
7 days ago
If one has followed everything that has happened with the Covid farce, that this suppression happened should be no surprise. Governments around the world colluded with big industry and the media to promote a create a pandemic that would serve their secret purpose. Big Pharma has made billions and governments around the world, to the detriment of humanity.
Reply • Share

Tomas Hull • Pinkelepant
7 days ago
I had to realize what it took to cook up a worldwide scam like that with the great majority believing it!
Reply • Share

GaryDunmore • Tomas Hull
7 days ago
"MORE MOST: A Covid Vaccine Nightmare Story Everyone Needs to Hear: The Man Pictured Crippled, Disabled, or Dead Could Be You!"
During the Covid pandemic, Jane Ann Jan Covid. She continued helping people, but she was not the same. Her life was a living hell.
"The Pfizer doctor destroyed her to take the COVID vaccine. She was worried and skeptical, but eventually she relented. She took the vaccine Pfizer jab. Slow. No second jab. No booster. Just one.
"That's all it took to ruin her life. Jane will never be the same."
"Within five hours she felt asthma were past. Pain the likes of which she'd never felt in her life. Mind-numbing pain."
"Then came the racing heart. Heart palpitations. Severe muscle twitching. Severe muscle weakness. Shortness of breath. Horrible fatigue. Pain. Pain! You best do not want to forget those, or deal with even worse."
https://www.thegatewaypundi...
Reply • Share

Nahilinpan • Tomas Hull
7 days ago
I most certainly do understand what it took to pull this off. First of all it took an imminent financial collapse for Trump to go to China three times between September and December. The liquidity crisis that was [illegible] in September 2019 was the result of a massive Treasury settlement. This prompted the Federal Reserve to pump $13 billion dollars a day into the inter-day lending market because rates were skyrocketing. If the Fed hadn't done this immediately the entire world bank experience a world wide economic meltdown. The problem was this was only a temporary fix as banks kept lending money into a overheated economy. This made the problem bigger.
In order to fix the problem for a longer term, the financial wizzards needed to crash the demand for credit which was the single biggest factor in creating the crisis in the first place. By the time December rolled around the Fed had pumped over $400 billion into the repo. The crisis was system and it was not enough to stem the tide. The world wide economic system was about to collapse. Trump convinced Xi Jinping to lock down China Chinese so that the rest of the world would believe that the
see more
Reply • Share

GaryDunmore • Pinkelepant
7 days ago
"Things are Really Bad in the USA, from Censorship, to going After American Catholics"
"Biden Admin=" Sharing is Caring"
"Surprise! The FBI Lied About 'White Supremacist' Memo Targeting Catholics, New Document Reveals"
"Thanks to a FOIA-redacted internal FBI document released Wednesday by the House Judiciary Committee, we learn that the effort was "far more widespread" than the agency acknowledged."
https://www.zerohedge.com/g...
Reply • Share

Tony • Pinkelepant
7 days ago
And they go after the Catholic Church, the most racially diverse church on the planet.
Reply • Share

Tomas Hull
7 days ago
Now we have to forgotten that history never vindicates anybody because it is written by the winners... Well he is on the winning or losing side when the dust settles after the so-called covid 19 pandemic?
Reply • Share

Mark Lambert • Tomas Hull
7 days ago
I stopped watching him when he jumped on the vaccine bandwagon. When you have a large audience, you have a huge responsibility to do ALL your homework.
Reply • Share

Rob Lef
7 days ago
Lying to mass, social media and pretty much every channel of communication you can think of, is nonsensical, why should anyone believe he spoke?
Reply • Share

Lindsay
7 days ago
I saw this scientist on a podcast cute off, regarding things RFK Jr. supposedly got wrong. I remember thinking at the time that he was full of himself. Now I know that he was full of himself however, he shouldn't have been censored.This will only serve to compound the growing distrust between the scientific community, the government and the public. As it should.
Reply • Share

Kim from Brooklyn
7 days ago
Come one. Come all To a circus near you!
We are all prep to the social media and politics and government. Free thinking, speech, and debate are being used against us.
Don't buy into scams. Listen more than you talk. Don't believe what you see, hear, smell, taste and touch.
Choose nature, nurture and necessity.
Reply • Share

M Carper
7 days ago
Interesting article. Thanks.
Reply • Share

R Galleros
7 days ago
There was very little censorship of preprint scientific papers before February 2020. This censorship was done to protect American scientists who took part in the creation of Covid 19, with their overseas collaborators. Most of the censors were friends of Ralph Baric.
Reply • Share

GaryDunmore
7 days ago • edited
"US Gen. Rand Paul Announces an 'Extraordinary Step' Yet Fools Against Anthony Fauci" "Some Good News!!"
"Gen. Paul shared on Tres X a friends" that he had contacted Matthew Graves, the U.S. attorney in Washington D.C., to prosecute Fauci for allegedly lying to Congress about the National Institutes of Health (NIH) having no involvement in gain-of-function research at the Wuhan Institute of Virology."
https://www.thegatewaypundi...
Reply • Share

Subscribe Privacy Do Not Sell My Data

Donate Now
You make the difference.

Latest News

Dr. Pierre Kory: Here's Why the CDC Today Op-ed on Excess Deaths Is Wrong & Never Mentioned 'Vaccines'

Pfizer Caught Editing, Now Evidence of 'Irreversible Safety Risks'

'A Fauci Clone': New NIAID Director Continue Scandalous Trials, Has Ties to Wuhan Lab Research

MORE NEWS

Latest Views

What's Behind the Rapid Spread of Red Meat Allergy After COVID Vaccines? Something Else?

Review Adds to Evidence That Glyphosate Weedkillers Cause Cancer

Dr. Seek Answers for Doctors for COVID Ethics Details Dangers of mRNA Vaccines

MORE VIEWS

Get FREE News & Updates!

First Name

Last Name

Email

SIGN UP

Get Text Alerts
Sign up for breaking news from The Defender.
Currently only eligible for numbers in the U.S. and Canada.
Phone
Please enter your phone number must be a standard 10 digit format e.g. 1234567890 or 1234567890.
CONTINUE

© 2018 - 2022 Children's Health Defense® All Rights Reserved • Sitemap

We use cookies to ensure that we give you the best experience on our website. You consent to our cookies if you continue to use our website. OK Privacy Policy